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Message Text

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PAGE 01 NDJAME 00873 160934Z

14-12
ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 SS-15 EUR-12 L-02 SR-02 ORM-01

PRS-01 SCA-01 VO-03 NSC-05 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 INRE-00 DODE-00 FBIE-00 SY-05 INSE-00 /061 W
---------- 033005
O 160850Z APR 75
FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
TO SECSTATE WASNDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9388

C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 0873

DEPARTMENT PASS AF -- AMB. MULCAHY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORS, CD
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ASYLUM BY HENRI VIXAMA, WIFE, FOUR CHILDREN
AND ONE GRANDCHILD

REF: OUR TEL OF APRIL 15 THROUGH FRENCH EMBASSY

1. EMBASSY BELIEVES DEPARTMENT SHOULD TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION
FOLLOWING POINTS IN RELATION TO REFTEL. FIRST, EMBASSY HAS NO MEANS
TO GRANT ASYLUM OTHER THAN TAKING RISKY STEP OF LODGING VIXAMA
FAMILY WITH EMBASSY FAMILY OR IN CHANCERY ITSELF WHICH WOULD BE
MOST DIFFICULT.

2. SECOND, EMBASSY HAS NO MEANS TO GET VIXAMA FAMILY OUT OF
COUNTRY, WHICH IS THEIR ACTUAL OBJECTIVE. ALTHOUGH, ACCORDING FRENCH
CONSUL GENERAL, NUMEROUS PEOPLE SWAM OR WADED ACROSS CHARI RIVER
TO CAMEROON OR CROSSED BY STILL-OPERATING FERRY AT BONGOR IMMEDIATELY
AFTER COUP, IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT THESE AVENUES OF ESCAPE ARE STILL
OPEN AS REGIME CONSOLIDATES ITS CONTROL. OFFICIALLY BORDERS AND
AIRPORT REMAIN CLOSED.

3. THIRD, IF EMBASSY TAKES VIXAMA, IT WOULD BE CLEAR INVITATION
TO ALL WHO ARE SUBJECT TO PUNISHMENT UNDER NEW REGIME WITHOUT
MEANS OF ESCAPE. TAKING VIXAMA COULD THUS ESTABLISH PRECEDENT NOT
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IN US INTEREST.

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4. FOURTH, TO GRANT ASYLUM WOULD BE TO PURSUE OUR GENERAL HUMANITARIAN INTEREST AT EXPENSE OF SPECIFIC POLITICAL INTEREST OF MAINTAINING OUR RELATIONS ON CORRECT BASIS WITH NEW REGIME.

5. SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL (SEPTEL) HAS ORDERED ALL MEMBERS FORMER REGIME, INCLUDING MEMBERS PRESIDENCY, REMAIN IN THEIR HOMES AND BE READY TO RESPOND TO EVENTUAL CALL FOR MEETING WITH NEW AUTHORITIES.

6. ADVISE ASAP.
LITTLE

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NNN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL ASYLUM, POLICIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NDJAME00873
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750132-0540
From: NDJAMENA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750446/aaaabqsa.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 OUR TEL OF APRIL 15
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: johnsorg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 AUG 2003 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <22 DEC 2003 by johnsorg>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REQUEST FOR ASYLUM BY HENRI VIXAMA, WIFE, FOUR CHILDREN AND ONE GRANDCHILD
TAGS: PORS, CD, US, (VIXAMA, HENRI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006